

# Creative or Expressive Arts: Performing Arts

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The purpose of this project is to allow youth to showcase talents in different areas of the Arts. The rules are aligned with the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest, so contestants can move on to compete at that level.

1. Performing Arts consist of two divisions:

**Jr. Division:** 3rd – 6th (cannot be 13 years of age during the year)

**Sr. Division:** 7th –12th. Group acts must compete in the division determined by the ages of the majority of the group.

2. Entries will be accepted in the following categories for both the Junior Division and the Senior Division.

Vocal Solo-Female

Novelty Solo

Vocal Solo-Male

Novelty Group

Vocal Group

Tumbling Solo- Free X only

Instrumental Solo

Tumbling Group- Free X only

Instrumental Group

Clogging Solo

Dance Solo

Clogging Group

Dance Group

3. The following descriptions are to be used as guidelines and are subject to interpretation by the Clinton County 4-H Advisory Council or their designee. Please note – contestants are competing against themselves and not against the other contestants.

a. **Vocal Solo-Female / Vocal Solo-Male:** Shall consist of a solo performance by a vocalist. Instrumental accompaniment by herself/himself or others is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand alone if the accompaniment were removed. Any background vocal on tape must be minimal. If composition is written by performer and he or she wishes this judged as part of the act, it will be placed in the novelty category. (No props allowed)

b. **Vocal Group:** Shall consist of a performance by two or more vocalists, male and/or female. Instrumental accompaniment by themselves or others is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. Any vocal background on tape must be minimal. If composition is written by performer and he or she wishes this judged as part of the act, it will be placed in the novelty category. (No props allowed)

Note: The judges feel props can detract from an act. Acts are judged on performance only.

c. **Instrumental Solo/Instrumental Group:** Shall consist of a solo or group instrumental performance by a male or female without vocal utterance. Accompaniment is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the solo performance would stand alone if the accompaniment were removed. No instrument of the same nature may be used for accompaniment. If composition is written by performer and he/she wishes this judged as part of the act, it will be placed in the novelty category. 2-minute set-up time

d. **Dance Solo:** Shall consist of a solo performance by a male or female dancer. Accompanists are permitted on stage. Ballet, pointe, tap and jazz will be judged in this category. Acts may use acrobatics or tumbling moves such as cartwheels, round-offs, flips and aerials. A limit of two acrobatic or tumbling moves will be permitted. Props must be part of costume.

e. **Dance Group:** Shall consist of a performance by two or more dancers, male and/or female. Accompanists are permitted on stage, but must not assume visual importance in the performance. Ballet, pointe, tap and jazz will be judged in this category. Acts may use acrobatics or tumbling moves such as cartwheels, round-offs, flips and aerials. A limit of two acrobatic or tumbling moves will be permitted. Props must be part of costume.

- f. Novelty Solo: Shall consist of a solo performance by a male or female in any act that has not been previously described (such as comedians, mimes, skits, etc.). This category will include acts using a combination of skills from two different categories where one skill does not stand alone (such as singing and dancing, playing an instrument and singing, lip synching and dancing, or using props). 2-minute set-up time
  - g. Novelty Group: Shall consist of two or more performers, male and/or female, in any act that has not been previously described (such as comedians, mimes, skits, etc.). This category will include acts using a combination of skills from two different categories where one skill does not stand-alone (such as singing and dancing, playing an instrument and singing, lip synching and dancing, and the use of props). Hand carried props only. Props must be used as an integral part of the act. 2-minute set-up time
  - h. Tumbling (Free X only) Solo: Shall consist of a solo performance by a male or female tumbler. This category was created for the dance routines that incorporate more than two acrobatic tricks. Everyone is responsible for his/her own mats and runners. Two people per mat may place mats on stage. Tumbling moves are as follows: cartwheels, round-offs, flips or aerials. These are considered as one trick each. 2-minute set-up time
  - i. Tumbling (Free X only) Group: Shall consist of two or more tumblers, male and/or female. This category is for group dance routines that incorporate more than two acrobatic tricks. Everyone is responsible for his/her own mats and runners. Two persons per mat may place mats. 2-minute set-up time
  - j. Clogging Solo and Clogging Group: Two or more cloggers are considered a group.
4. Cheerleaders and Baton twirlers or similar acts using batons, machetes or sharp instruments will not be accepted in the project. No fire, dry ice or fog will be allowed on stage. Any attempt to circumvent these terms and conditions shall result in disqualification.
  5. The Clinton County 4-H Youth Development Educator or their designees, reserve the right to assign acts to what they determine to be the proper categories. Any questions shall be resolved by the 4-H Performing Arts Committee. Their decision is FINAL.

#### PERFORMANCE RULES

1. Each act will be allowed a total of three minutes performance time. An official timer will be present at each competition during the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest. Ten penalty points will be deducted from the score of any act that exceeds the 3 minute time limit.
2. Timing begins: a) When music begins, when music is used, OR b) At first movement or vocal utterance of performer without musical accompaniment. Set-up time for all props, including mats, is 2 minutes only. Music must end within 3 minute limit. Ten penalty points will be deducted if set-up time exceeds 2 minutes.
3. **If there is a tie in scores, once contestants are done performing and judging results are in, a tie-break will be used. The tie-break will be the higher score for the category Performance on the scoresheet. If Performance is a tie as well, the next category for the tie-break will be the higher score for Audience Appeal.**
4. The 4-H Performing Arts Committee DOES NOT provide any equipment (including gymnastic mats), except for the lighting and sound equipment. All acts will use ONLY the lighting system provided by the place the competition is held.
5. All acts will use ONLY the sound system and sound operator provided by the 4-H Performing Arts Committee, however instrumentalists may bring their own amplifiers, if needed. All music must be on a CD and labeled with the act's name and address. This CD is to be brought to the 4-H Performing Arts Contest on the day of competition at registration time.
6. NO ONE OTHER THAN THE PERFORMER(S) WILL BE ALLOWED BACKSTAGE. THIS INCLUDES ALL PARENTS AND TEACHERS. Failure to comply with these terms and conditions may mean disqualification.
7. Videotaping will be allowed only in areas specified for that purpose.

***STATE FAIR ELIGIBILITY IS DETERMINED THROUGH QUALIFICATION AT AREA CONTEST***